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Letter of 13 October 1973 from the
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Next Review Date: 2008

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Germany/Russian Zone

DATE: 25X1

SUBJECT Russian Troop Locations and Demobilization
in Thuringia

INFO.

DIST. 19 March 1947

ORIGIN [REDACTED] 25X1

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SUPPLEMENT

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1. Erfurt (J36) 25X1

a) The Erfurt SMA was transferred to Weimar on [REDACTED]

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b) [REDACTED] Erfurt was occupied by an armored division of 8,000 men. This division, which had returned from the Ohdruf (J15) troop training grounds the previous week, was to be redesignated and to receive reinforcements.

2. Suhl (J02)

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[REDACTED] the horse-drawn 706th Rifle Division arrived from Ohdruf. Its total strength in Suhl proper was 1,500 men, including 61 officers. The rest of the troops were distributed in the area and 500 men each were in Nibendorf (J02), Dietzhausen (J02), Grimmenthal (H91), Rohr (H92), and Untermassfeld (H81). The troops ranged in age from 25 to 30.

3. Zella-Mehlis (J03) 25X1

a) The Zella-Mehlis SMA was transferred to Weimar on [REDACTED]

b) The 217th Penal Battalion arrived from Ohdruf on [REDACTED]

4. Meiningen (H82)

a) The Meiningen SMA was transferred to Weimar on [REDACTED] 25X1

b) All troops have been recalled from the Meiningen command district. These troops have been sent to Weimar, reportedly to proceed in uniform or civilian clothing to Poland and Czechoslovakia. Arms and equipment are shipped by rail.

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c) Of these troops, only forty percent in the older age group are being discharged. The evacuation was to be completed by the end of December, according to Order 502.

d) Small command posts will remain to break in new elite troops coming from the USSR. The latter are Stalin Pupils, professional soldiers, aged 19 to 25, unmarried, and trained in the German manner. After the arrival of these new units, there will be further redeployment, this time among men assigned at present to penal units. Such individuals will be permitted to return either to their old units or to new ones. A portion of these men, classified by Amnesty Order 502, will be discharged for return to the USSR.

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[redacted] Comment: [redacted] unfortunately does not provide any date for the recall of troops from the Meiningen district command; it is not known, therefore, whether this shift involved the newly arrived units reported in Paras 2 and 3.

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